

## Troping the Asylum

of. He also objects to the qualification of Mary's "insanity" as "temporary" (17). Dr. Campbell finds the implication that "the insanity would not be permanent had the girl lived" quite unsubstantiated. Obviously a great deal of Dr. Campbell's legalistic argument rests entirely on designating Mary a "lunatic" (17). As a "lunatic" her statements cannot be used as evidence against him or even disseminated without the Coroner exposing himself to legal action; moreover, as a permanent lunatic her condition cannot be attributed to any physiological causes such as pregnancy or Dr. Campbell's possible abortion of it by means of "galvanism." The lawyer makes a similar observation, but with a different point of view. He adds that such a reason -- temporary insanity -- is usually only used out of consideration for the feelings of relatives, when the condition of the victim is really permanent.

Finally, regarding this verdict, "Lawyer Blank" invokes the professionalism of those who testified to the contrary:

[Lawyer Blank] The Coroner should not have accepted such a verdict from his "intelligent" jury in the face of the evidence of two experts, Dr. Workman and yourself, who were paid by the public for their professional opinions on this point of insanity. (18)

The Coroner's failure to accept such expert testimony, is attributed possibly to professional animosity. The two were friends at college in Edinburgh, but now belong to different schools of medicine (18). "Lawyer Blank" finally concludes that the real cause must be senility: "Poor old Hallowell, it may be he is more to be pitied than blamed" (18).

## Homeopathy vs. Allopathy

The Coroner's underlining of certain passages in the recorded depositions, especially critical of Dr. Campbell, is taken as an indication, not that the Coroner regarded these passages as important, but that he had a special malice against the doctor. This last point returns us to allegations of professional differences unrelated to the Mary Boyd case. Dr. Hallowell singled out evidence against Dr. Campbell in order to discredit the latter's "school," which was homeopathy: